



**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 8**

1595 Wynkoop Street
DENVER, CO 80202-1129
Phone 800-227-8917
<http://www.epa.gov/region08>

May 4, 2007

Ref: 8EPR-N

Faye Kreuger, Forest Supervisor
Wasatch-Cache National Forest
Federal Building, Room 8236
125 South State Street
Salt Lake City, Utah 84138

Re: West Bear Vegetation Management Project FEIS, Wasatch-
Cache National Forest, Salt Lake City, UT
CEQ #20070100

Dear Mr. Kreuger:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 8 (EPA) has reviewed the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's "West Bear Vegetation Management Project" Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS), in accordance with our responsibilities under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and Section 309 of the Clean Air Act. EPA is supportive of the Wasatch-Cache National Forest's ongoing effort to develop a vegetation management program that will not only protect, but improve, the forests landscapes.

EPA has reviewed the USFS's response to our letter commenting on the draft EIS. In general, all of our comments have been addressed or an explanation has been provided by the USFS that clarifies your position. Our only request is we would like to see some additional discussion in the Record of Decision (ROD) on the USFS commitment to the implementation of a monitoring and adaptive management program. It is unclear in the FEIS how these programs will be incorporated in the West Bear Vegetation Management Program. EPA considers this an important element for a successful program.

We appreciate the opportunity to comment on the FEIS. If you have any questions or would like to discuss our comments, please contact Dick Clark of my staff at (303) 312-6748 or by email at clark.richard@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

/s/ Deborah Lebow
for Larry Svoboda
Director, NEPA Program
Office of Ecosystems Protection and Remediation

